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able that fifteen hundred of these comparatively full records of housing and social conditions and occupations will be available by the first of June.

There is small room for doubt that the results obtained from these histories and from the Health Department records will indicate further investigations into certain occupations carried on in the city, into certain places of amusement or of congregation for other purposes, and into the habits of certain sections of the population, and that these investigations will result, directly or indirectly, in ameliorating some of the conditions which make for the persistence and the spread of "the great white plague."

REPORTS OF INSTITUTIONS.

The State of New York, in 1886, added to its Public Health Law certain provisions relating to institutions for homeless children. The object of the new legislation was to remedy the unsanitary and dangerous conditions prevailing in many of these institutions, and to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among the inmates. The State Board of Charities recently attempted to ascertain how great a compliance had been accorded the law during its fifteen years of operation, and to this end the Board investigated conditions in 148 of the children's institutions of the state. It found the degree of compliance greatest in the institutions of New York City, and least in those scattered over the western part of the state.

In every case it was found that the institution in question had obeyed the law as far as the employment of a regular physician went, yet 17 institutions admitted children without examination by a physician, and 11 more did so under "special circumstances." Only 49 were found to comply strictly with the requirement which calls for the filing of a physician's certificate of the child's condition along with the commitment papers, and one-third of the entire number of institutions failed, either wholly or partially, to comply with the section requiring that every child at entrance be placed in strict quarantine until discharged by a physician. The reason most frequently given for failure in this latter instance was "lack of facilities." Nearly four-fifths of the institutions were found to comply with the section which requires a monthly examination, by a compe-

tent physician, of the sanitary conditions of the institution and of the physical condition of each child, but less than a third completed the requirement by filing a report of such examination. Only about 19 allowed the amount of air space per occupant in the dormitories which the law calls for, but a larger proportion complied with the provision requiring a space of not less than two feet between the beds.

The report includes also a consideration of the occurrence of contagious diseases in the institutions visited, a discussion of preventive and protective measures, and some account of the more important objections and recommendations made by officials who have had the best possible opportunity of observing the law in its practical application. It emphasizes throughout the inestimable value of filing regular, systematic reports.

A. M. S.

STATISTICAL YEAR-BOOK OF GERMANY.

The ninth [1901] issue of the *Statistisches Jahrbuch Deutscher Städte*, published under the direction of Mr. N. Neefe, Director of the Statistical Bureau of Breslau, in collaboration with nineteen colleagues, is in arrangement and composition much the same as the previous issue, though it is enriched by the addition of a few new studies and the re-entrance of several articles which have appeared in former years. Twenty divisions of the 1900 year-book have been enlarged and extended. Of the changes, the most important are as follows: In Part II has been inserted a table of the Landed Property of German Municipalities and of the World. This study has been made part of a special division of the book. In Part 21 has been included the statement of the results in the promotion and extension of Poor-Relief and Philanthropy, as shown in the Tenth and Eleventh Conferences of the Committees of the German Statistical Council. In Part 22 appears for the first time a statement of the Income, Output and Profits of and Duties on Stock-yards and Slaughter-houses. To Part 25 has been added a Summary of the results of Landtag and Reichstag Elections. More extensive presentation is made of the subject of Industrial Legislation, Conditions of Income and Well-being, Poor Relief and Philanthropy, National Internal Commerce, and National Administration, Representation and Defence.